

Cleveland March 24th / 64

Mr Garrison

My dear Friend

Allow me to say - I

am very glad to see your position with
regard to Mr Lincoln. This morning's
Cleveland Leader quotes from your ^{article} in
last week's Liberator - with much
point and charm. No doubt the
Republican Party will be shaken &
not fatally divided by this naming
merely - other candidates for Mr Penduey.
It is all wrong as I see it. The attention
of the people was but just secured to
the issue before the country - what
folly to distract the ^{public} mind, held as yet
by such feeble tenure. I look upon it
as suicidal - besides much more
might have been hoped from the
enlightened moral sense of the people
for the defense of the Government, than

than from President or King,
which would ^{also} demonstrate the
Guns of a Free Government - and the
power of self defense in a Republic.

Heretofore partly from usage in
the past, and partly from political
Blindness - but mainly from the power
of Slavery - we have been self governing
in this Nation - by proxy - The women have
looked to the men - the men to their
Representatives - and the Representatives
to the President. Some men of old
said, there could be no true Republic
without a Gynaeceum - and we
must now open our Moral & Political
Gynaeceum - and all learn to take
the first position - stand upon ^{our} ~~own~~
own two feet, and stand squarely
and firmly.

I am decidedly opposed to
the President's Prud - for the above reason
and, because the people have sufficient

confidence in Mr Lincoln if the
Politicians let him alone. The South hate
the President because he represents
Labor - and I like him because
he leaves every one of us to strike each
our own blow with a heavy sledge,
to secure universal ^{freedom} & save the Government
from a Louis Napoleon. I know that
the People of the West are safe with Mr
Lincoln in the Chair. For if he don't
work they will - without complaint.

But I begin to write upon
another subject - the New Bureau for
the African Race - the germ into which
we must infuse a moral дух from
which to inaugurate a new & purer
system of Politics. As Slavery dies, our
old Politics ceases to be, also, or walks the
earth only as the ghost of the dead past.

The jurisdiction of this new
Bureau which will be created is very
significant. We want a man of more

than mere political calibre.

A man of brief Antislavery Spirit, approach-
able - impossible, and executive.

I have conversed with Mr Paul Mass
of Cleveland Chicago and Detroit &
we have named Hon Daniel R. Tilden
as fitted - ^{for the place} - ^{fourth} now on his ~~last~~ term of Probate
Court, and the most popular man in
the County, - a John Brown man, and Prof
Thorne says, has the best record of Antislavery
of any Politician in the West - with a wise
& laughing to enter right into the work with
him - and fully committed - to give us
women what we do much need in the
Gov - a Commission to carry forward the
work of Relief to the Freedmen which indeed
to be our work legitimacy - we are working
largely, earnestly to get him appointed.
Can you help us - if not who can in the
East? We want Sumner and Wilson to
back Spalding & Wade or help in any way
they may deem best - Can Parker help us?
It is of great importance to the Freedmen, Women &

the County

Enclosed you will find copy of our Memorial largely approved by the Pres of the Freedmen Commission in Chicago Detroit and Cleveland Prof. Thompson & many of the clergy to whom I read it before printing. I should be very glad of your best women names - to ask for such a Commission for women of the West - ^{the people} ~~we~~ will have unbounded confidence to carry forward such work as Mrs. Gage, Cutler & Harland and other this National Missionary work, to success.

If it is not asking too much will take names to secure such names and have the Memorial sent to George W. Perkins - understanding will help us. My address is Box 1192 Chi I hope you will give me your word soon on the Bureau & Judge Tilden's question - Have had grand success in Cleveland 2800 on the Petition and a large Organization

of the best & most influential
women - such as Mrs Geo Briggs and
Mrs Proff Thomas and Mr Judge Tilden.

From here I go to Detroit to finish
our Organization there - we combine the
Petitioning and the Freedmen work - a
Women League & Freedmen Relief Society.

The whole work is ready for this work.

Mrs Tilden joins me in regards of
sincere affection to Mr Garrison and yours
truly yours.

Josephine S. Griffing